



www.parkwayucc.org
Sunday, May 1, 2022

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Limitless Love | Courageous Action | Spirited Inquiry

Purpose Statement

Parkway United Church of Christ strives to be an inclusive community embracing: spiritual nourishment, open-minded inquiry, courageous action, and interfaith partnerships to fulfill God's calling to create a just world for all.

Congregational Statement

Parkway United Church of Christ, with God's grace, seeks to be a congregation that includes all persons, regardless of race, ethnic, or socio-economic background while respecting differences of gender, marital status, age, sexual orientation, and mental and physical ability. We aspire to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God. We invite all to share in the life and leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities and blessings of participation in our open and affirming congregation.

PARKWAY UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST

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John Nourse, *Pastor Emeritus*

Welcome to Parkway

Thank you for joining us this morning. If you are with us virtually, please let us know you are here by commenting in the chat.

Welcome Children. We invite children to full participation in worship.

Today's flowers given by Amy and Doug Yakel in celebration of all 2022 graduates.

Today's Scripture reader: Andy Lowenthal

Bell Rung During Lord's Prayer. A tradition begun when farmers working in surrounding fields would stop their work and join in prayer.

Subscribe to our email lists: Text your email address to 22828 or sign up at www.parkwayucc.org

Communications Requests: Please use the form at www.parkwayucc.org/communications for all announcements for all our media. Bulletin and eNews deadline is noon Monday.

Cover Graphic

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Anniversaries

5/2 STOHR, Sue & Paul (51)

Birthdays

5/1 WADDELL, Amber

5/6 KLEINE, Kim

5/2 CRAWFORD, Amanda

5/7 RUTHERFORD, Polly

5/3 HAACK, Gail

5/7 SCHOWALTER, Blake

5/3 SCHATZ, Will

3rd Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 1, 2022 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

*Please stand if it is comfortable to do so.

Meditation

Our problem with following Jesus is we're trying to be a better version of us rather than a more accurate reflection of Him. ~Bob Goff

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Passing the Peace of Christ

"May the peace of Christ be with you."

(We are intentional about bringing more peace into the world.)

Prelude *Prelude in D Major*—J. K. F. Fischer (ca. 1665-ca. 1738)

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

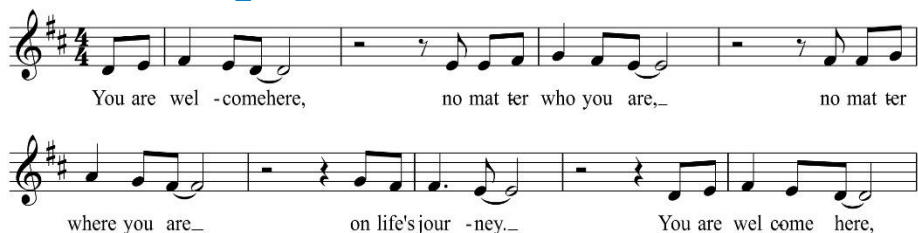
Introit *This Is the Day*—Joy F. Patterson

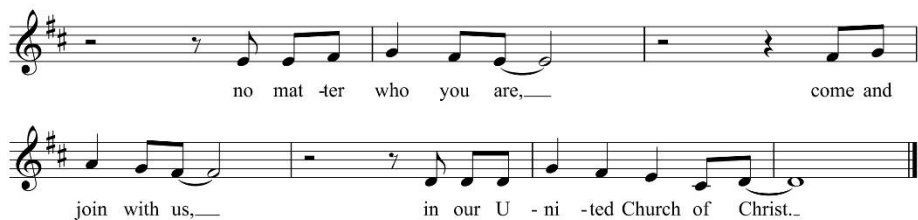
Scripture Psalm 30 (CEB – Common English Bible)

I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up, and did not let my foes rejoice over me. O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me. O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol, restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit. Sing praises to the Lord, O you faithful ones, and give thanks to God's holy name. For anger is but for a moment; God's favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning. As for me, I said in my prosperity, "I shall never be moved."

By your favor, O Lord, you had established me as a strong mountain; you hid your face; I was dismayed. To you, O Lord, I cried, and to the Lord I made supplication: "What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the Pit? Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness? Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me! O Lord, be my helper!" You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, so that my soul may praise you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

Welcome Song *You Are Welcome Here*





***Call to Worship** David Sparks

One: Compassion calls us to love as we have been loved by our most gracious God—

Many: **to love those who love us and those who reject us;**

One: to love those whose story we have heard first hand, and those whose story comes to us indirectly;

Many: **to love those with needs who are on our street, and those whose home is an ocean away;**

One: to love those who are Christian, and those who follow a similar path by a different name.

Many: **It is the compassion of the risen Christ that calls us to love without limits.**

One: We recognize that this love is neither easy to give nor to receive.

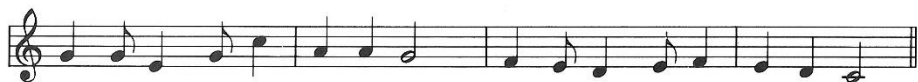
Many: **Yet we take this opportunity, challenge, responsibility.**

All: **Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.**

***Song** *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* #514



1 Let us tal-ents and tongues em-ploy, reach-ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a-ble to make us one, at his ta-ble he set the tone,
3 Je-sus calls us in, sends us out bear-ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro-ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo-ken and seen and heard.
teach-ing peo-ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex-press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im-man-u-el) ev-ery-where!

Refrain (first time p, second time f)



Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain, pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!

*Opening Prayer

Holy one, let there be joy in our coming together this morning. Let there be truth heard in the words we speak and the songs we sing. Let there be help and healing for our disharmony and despair. Let there be silence for the voice within us and beyond us. Yes, let there be joy in our coming together. Let us be nurtured in your presence and power. Amen.

*Response *Spirit of the Living God*

Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me;
Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me!
Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me.

Children's Time Children are invited to Room 12 (Lower Level) and Youth to Room 15 (Lower Level) following this Children's Time.

Blessing the Children *Weave*

Weave, weave, weave us together
Weave us together in unity and love,
Weave, weave, weave us together
Weave us together, together in love.

Offering Our Gifts to God

Offering Interlude *Laudamus Te*—Natalie Sleeth

*Response

Praise God whose many names abound;
Our Peace, our Rock, Our Holy Ground,
Our Home, our All, Earth's Majesty,
Love, Spirit, Light and Mystery. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication *David Sparks*

Loving God, you call us to a ministry of compassion. Open our eyes to the needs of family, friends and strangers. Show us the ways we can help. Alert us to those who are troubled, and to those whose basic human needs are not being met. Help us stretch worldwide to include our sisters and brothers far from here. Show us how to support those who feel alone and forgotten. Amen.

Scripture John 21:1-19 (NRSV – New Revised Standard Version)

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No."

He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

Invitation to the Communion Table We invite *all* to this **open table**. All accepted—no exceptions—as we commit ourselves to limitless love, courageous action and spirited inquiry.

Communion Song *In the Singing* #2255



1. In the sing-ing, in the si-lence, in the hands ex-pec-tant,
2. In the ques-tion, in the an-swer, in the mo-ment of ac -



o - pen, in the bless-ing, in the break-ing,
cep - tance, in the heart's cry, in the heal-ing,

in the Pres-ence at this ta - ble —
in the cir - cle of your peo - ple —

Refrain

Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the wine of grace:

Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the bread of peace.

Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer sung to the tune by Nate Stout

Our [Creator/Mother/Father/Holy One] **who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

[A variety of names for God are welcome here – including in the Lord's Prayer.]

*Breaking Bread & Pouring Wine/Juice

***Prayer of Thanksgiving** Shirley Erena Murray

In the singing, in the silence, in the hands expectant, open. In the blessing, in the breaking, in the Presence at this table—Jesus, be the wine of grace: Jesus, be the bread of peace. In the question, in the answer, in the moment of acceptance, in the hearts cry, in the healing, in the circle of your people—Jesus, be the wine of grace: Jesus, be the bread of peace. Help us to be these gifts too. Amen.

***Song of Parting** Called as Partners in Christ's Service #343

1. Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, Called to min - is-tries of grace,
2. Christ's ex - am - ple, Christ's in - spir - ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
3. Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, In a small or glob-al sense,
4. So God grant us for to - mor-row Ways to or - der hu - man life



We re-spond with deep com-mit-ment Fresh new lines of faith to trace.
Let us fol-low, nev-er fal-tering, Rec-on-cil-ing folk on earth.
Help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, Break-ing down each wall or fence.
That sur-round each per-son's sor-row With a calm that con-quests strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, Side by side and friend with friend,
Men and wom-en, rich-er, poor-er, All God's peo-ple, young and old,
Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, Words of chal-lenge, said with care,
Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, Our com-pas-sion to in-crease,



E - qual part-ners in our car-ing To ful-fill God's cho-sen end.
Blend-ing hu-man skills to-gether Gra-cious gifts from God un-fold.
Bring new power and strength for ac-tion, Make us col-leagues, free and fair.
Mes-sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing Hope and con-fi-dence and peace.

***Benediction**

***God's Light Goes Forth**

***Music for Going Forth** *Trumpet Tune in D Major*—Henry Purcell (ca. 1658-1695, arr./edited by Walter E. Buszin)

Announcements

TAD—Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue May 3

1st & 3rd Tuesdays | 1:45 Fellowship | 2:00pm book discussion | via ZOOM
Please join TAD as we continue discussing *Invisible Child: Poverty, Survival, and Hope in an American City*. Contact Jacki Eiffert: jeiffert2@gmail.com
Video: [hus02web.zoom.us/j/83670617428?pwd=bUxPZEEdDMlU4ay9oNndTWw4yZUYwUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83670617428?pwd=bUxPZEEdDMlU4ay9oNndTWw4yZUYwUT09)
Phone: 312 626 6799 | **Meeting ID:** 836 7061 7428 | **Passcode:** 480007

Go AWOL with us—Adventurous Women Out Late

Help us build community and enjoy one another's company!
Questions? Carmen Bumgarner (cfbum@charter.net; 314-330-0813)

Sat, May 21 | 1:00pm | Chinese Cultural Days | Missouri Botanical Garden
Meet us there at the Garden at 1pm or carpool from church at 12:30pm
Admission: \$16 Non-member adults
<https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/things-to-do/events/event-details/sreventid/1565.aspx>
(Please RSVP by April 24)

Saturday, June 25 | Movie Night at local theater—TBA
We will meet there at theater or at church at 6:30pm to carpool.
(Please RSVP by midnight that Thursday)

Wednesday, August 3 | *The Color Purple* at the MUNY (largest outdoor musical theatre in North America)
The Color Purple makes its Muny debut!
Ticket prices and details coming soon.
(Please RSVP by April 24) Carmen Bumgarner cfbum@charter.net

IIRC Welcomes Family from Afghanistan



The Intertwine Interfaith Welcome Circle has been helping the Afghan family to acclimate to living in the US. Read more about this family of six and how you can continue to support them.

A Better Day Will Come Hosnia Mohseni (Afghanistan)

Sister, the day will come when you and I will fly
Over the proud hills of our land.
A day will come when the doors won't be locked
And falling in love will not be a crime.
You and I will let our hair fly, wear red dresses,
And intoxicate the birds of our vast deserts with our laughter.
We will dance among the red tulips of Mazar iIn memory of Rabia.*
That day is not far.
Perhaps it is just around the corner.
Perhaps it is in our poetry.

*Rabia: First recorded woman Persian poet, she was killed for falling in love and writing poetry.



St. Louis County **Library**

VIRTUAL PROGRAM

WE CAN'T WAIT



**21 DAY RACIAL EQUITY AND
SOCIAL JUSTICE CHALLENGE**

Expand your understanding of equity and social justice during this 21-day challenge starting in May presented by YWCA Metro St. Louis. This challenge asks participants to make daily time and space for 21 days to foster understanding and identify ways to dismantle racism and end discrimination.

This program is recommended for adults. Registration is required. Registrants will receive a daily list of tasks and an opportunity to participate in a facilitated discussion of the week's activities on Fridays at 12:00 p.m.

Program sites are accessible. With at least two weeks' notice, accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities. Call 314-994-3300 or visit www.slcl.org.

St. Louis County Library | www.slcl.org



Racial Justice Ministries – United Church of Christ

Our UCC acknowledges and supports the equality of all humans. We are one of the very few Christian churches that are leading bold and courageous conversations, engaging in direct social activism, and participating in civil disobedience as a way to bring attention to and disrupt racist systems and structures. The reality of racism, white supremacy and nationalism threatens God's sacred human family. As people of faith we remain vigilant anti-racists advocates and activists responding to threats and acts of violence towards our sisters and brothers—our siblings of African, Asian, Latin, and Native descent—whose civil and human rights are violated on a daily basis.

<https://www.ucc.org/racial-justice-ministries/>

Some Easter Poetry from Progressive Christianity

AFFIRMATION

In forgiving past grudges,
In unlocking unwept tears,
WE EXPERIENCE EASTER.

In transforming buried anger,
In abandoning guilt and fear,
WE EXPERIENCE EASTER.

In the melting of the ice in our heart,
In the giving of our being to God,
WE EXPERIENCE EASTER,
SEASON OF NEW LIFE.

THE PATTERN OF DEATH AND RESURRECTION

The pattern of death and resurrection is the pattern
of all our creating and all our loving
for out of darkness comes light
out of chaos comes new creation
out of silence comes the singing
out of stillness comes the dancing
out of desolation comes new hope
and out of the death of the old comes the birth of the new.

PERCEPTION

To see the divine in yourself
Is to see the divine everywhere.
To reverence the divine in yourself
Is to reverence the divine everywhere.
To nurture the divine in yourself
Is to nurture the divine everywhere.
For there is no division within the divine.

THE EASTER EXPERIENCE

The Easter experience
is becoming
a cross that grows into a tree,
a tomb that liberates,
a rock that dances,
bread and wine that feed the spirit,
an earthquake that destroys complacency and
a darkness that births radiant light.

DEATH AND RESURRECTION

The way of the cross and the way of the dance
are but two parts of the one Way;
without the dance there is no life –
without the cross there is no healing.

GOLDEN INCANDESCENCE

Having glimpsed
the golden incandescence
at the heart
of the mystery
I need not ask
'Who am I?'
but rather rejoice that
I AM,
need no longer to understand
but simply
to be -
for the interaction
of fire
and water,
earth and sky
brings answers
that are not mine
yet reside within.
All this
I seek to reverence,
celebrate,
live -
for the interior beauty
finally uncovered
inhabits the whole created world,
the love I share
flows throughout the Cosmos,
my inner song echoes
the mystic hymn of universe
until my griefs merge
with
Creation's calvaries
and God's unending liveliness
embraces
my
resurrections.

Prayer List

as of Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Celebrations

We are Easter people!

All the acts of kindness, justice and equity near and far.

Ruzicka Family's revitalized & award-winning *Cub Scout Den & Pack!*

Concerns

Family/friends of Conrad Damsgaard – grieving/giving thanks...

<https://missouri.funeral.com/2022/04/18/conrad-damsgaard-jr-st-louis-cremation/>

Sally Boughman - last lumbar epidural steroid injection today.

Lori Connors and Bill Schulenburg - healing for broken arms.

Joan Biest - in the midst of chemotherapy treatments.

All impacted by Covid-19 - individuals, families, healthcare workers; If anyone needs help getting vax/booster or if anyone vaccinated would like to be on the Care Team, please reach out to kevin@parkwayucc.org

The war in Ukraine.

Recent violence across the US and Palestine/Israel.

Continuing

Kathleen Tarr - healing after recent foot surgery.

Ellie Svenson - healing in STL after a mild stroke and ankle surgery.

Dan & Kim, Ben/Henry/Davis Weas - Dan's cancer treatments.

Jackie - special needs adult battling Parkinson's, cancer, and dementia (sister/sister-in-law of Nick & Sue McMillon).

Janet Schoedinger - chemotherapy for 3rd cancer battle (Litzinger).

Lynda Ruby - living with cancer (Lindner).

Val - strength and patience (Jim Winkelmann's 101 year-old mother).

Christopher, Gail & Bill Haack - chronic health challenges... Bill has begun the lengthy prep process for extensive back surgery.

Cherie & Mike Stolze - her health; her father's kidney disease.

Ruth Peace & Pinky Wilcoxon - PUCC sisters with health challenges.

Bill Darland - ongoing health issues.

Lizzie - awaiting liver transplant (niece of Barb Kuhlmann).

Anthony - multiple challenges as he lives his post-incarceration life.

Gary - risky behaviors; seeking balance and stability.

Intertwine Interfaith Welcome Circle - Afghan family in St Louis.

Home/Care Facility/Rehab Center

Millicent Guerri - living with cancer... 14300 Conway Meadows Ct E, Chesterfield, MO 63017 [birthdate: December 5]

Marv Herpel - *Brookdale West County*; 785 Henry Ave, #217; Ballwin, MO 63021; 636-227-5838 [birthdate: March 3]

Sue Houser - *Bethany Ctr for Rehab & Healing*; 421 Ocala Dr - #209B; Nashville, TN 37211; 615-577-2049. [birthdate: July 8]

Pat Klein - *Anthology Senior Living of Wildwood*; 251 Plaza Dr, #325; Wildwood, MO 63040 [birthdate: September 21]

Bill Klein - *Anthology Senior Living of Wildwood*; 251 Plaza Dr, #104; Wildwood, MO 63040 [birthdate: March 8]

John Nourse *The Village at Cape Albeon*; 3300 Lake Bend Dr, #103; Valley Park, MO 63088 [birthdate: October 26]

Ruth Peace - 10379-D Forest Brooke Ln; StL MO 63146; 314-983-0253; meadletter222@gmail.com [birthdate: August 8]

Pearl Sellenriek - *Friendship Village Memory Care Division* #1001; 15250 Olive Blvd, Chesterfield, MO 63017 [birthdate: March 31]

Gladys Sims - *Friendship Village - 15200 Village View Dr, #2418*; Chesterfield, MO 63017; 636-898-8873 [birthdate: July 4]

Pinky Wilcoxon - 10379-D Forest Brooke Ln; StL MO 63146; 314-983-0253; meadletter222@gmail.com [birthdate: April 7]

Dick Witte - Meramec Bluffs Assisted Living; 40 Meramec Trails Dr; Apt #104; Ballwin, MO 63021; 636-368-7324 [birthdate: March 25]

Other

Lucia McKenzie and John Bieg - engaged to be married.

The Shelton Family - as Killian prepares to welcome a baby sister.

Pres Biden, VP Harris, Congress, all local, national, world leaders.

The “me too” Movement - shining a light on sexual abuse.

All people who live with mental illness.

Caregivers of all shapes and sizes.

PUCC Family struggling with employment; healthcare costs and limits.

Our Missouri Mid-South Conference and St Louis Assn UCC

Gun violence and other violence across the US and other lands.

Conversations about the Death Penalty in the United States.

Victims of Natural and Created Disasters around the world.

Healing of relationships between the public and the police.

US Military around the globe.

Peace and Justice near and far.

St Louis Association UCC Covenant Partner

Week ending May 1 - Glory to Glory Christian Church UCC, St. Louis;
glorytogloryucc.org

Week ending May 8 - Holy Trinity Community UCC, Memphis;
holyltrinitymemphis.org

3rd Sunday of Easter

May 1, 2022

Acts 9:1-6

The Way Forward

Saul, the persecutor of God's people became Paul, champion of the living Christ, after a powerful singular experience on the road to Damascus. For Silver Lake Award honoree Valerie Tutson, the powerful, singular moment that Christ came alive for her was not on the road, but in the pews of her childhood church.

Valerie Tutson is a storyteller by trade and her eyes widen with joy when she tells the story of the first time she saw a performance by some of her church friends after they returned from a camp experience at Silver Lake Conference Center (SLCC), a United Church of Christ facility. She recounts that in seeing those young women - dressed in plastic garbage bags meant to represent frog costumes and singing about the plagues and pharaoh - her life was changed forever. From then on, scripture stories were not merely words on the page, but a living breathing story, one that became hers to tell with creativity and wonder. After that she attended camp as soon, and as often, as she could.

"Silver Lake has been a part of my life since I was 11 years old," Val said. "Without a doubt, Silver Lake has helped to shape the person I am in the world. It has always been a place where my life, my creative work, and my faith get explored and braided together. I tell people all over the world that all the good stuff I learned about life and caring for God's people I learned and keep learning at camp!" She has been a camper or staff member of the camp since 1977.

SLCC Executive Director, the Rev. Ryan Gackenhaimer, says that even many decades after her "come to Jesus moment" in the pews of her home church, "It is difficult to be in the presence of Val and not know that God is alive and loves you to the deepest core of who you truly are."

Do you have a "road to Damascus" moment? How does it continue to inform your life to this day?

Information about the Silver Lake Award adapted from the Silver Lake Conference Center web site: <https://www.silverlakecc.org/newsdetail/valerie-tutson-recognized-with-4th-annual-silver-lake-award-14029263>